# Translation

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# **PCT**

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference   | FOR FURTHER ACTION   | See Form PCT/IPEA/416                           |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| P33110-P0   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| International application No.   | International filing date (day/month/year)   | Priority date (day/month/year)                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PCT/JP2004/004774   | 01.04.2004   | 01.04.2003                                      |  |  |  |  |  |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. This REPORT consists of a total of   | 3 sheets, including  | ng this cover sheet.                            |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. This report is also accompanied by A   | NNEXES, comprising:  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. (sent to the applicant and   | to the International Bureau) a total of 8  | sheets, as follows:                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental                    |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Box.  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| b (sent to the International.   | Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and numb  | er of electronic carrier(s))                    |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |  | _ , containing a sequence listing and/or tables |  |  |  |  |  |
| related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. This report contains indications relati  | ng to the following items:   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Box No. I Basis of the  | report   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Box No. II Priority   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Box No. III Non-establi   | shment of opinion with regard to novelty, inven  | tive step and industrial applicability          |  |  |  |  |  |
| Box No. IV Lack of uni  | ty of invention  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Box No. VI Certain doc  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Box No. VII Certain defe  | ects in the international application  | application                                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Date of submission of the demand  | Date of completion of t  | his report                                      |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP   | Authorized officer   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Facsimile No.   | Telephone No.  | Telephone No.                                   |  |  |  |  |  |



### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/004774

| Box  | No. I   | Basis of the report   |   |   |  |  |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| 1.   |   | regard to the language, this report is based on the internation ated under this item.                                     | nal application in the language in which  | ch it was filed, unless otherwise                     |  |  |
|  | This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:   |   |   |   |  |  |
| international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)) |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)  | )   |   |  |  |
|  |   | international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/   | or 55.3)  |   |  |  |
| 2.   | With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report): |   |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | the international application as originally filed/furnished   |   |   |  |  |
|  | $\boxtimes$   | the description:  |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | pages 1,6-11  |   | as originally filed/furnished                         |  |  |
|  |   | pages* 2,3,3/1,4,5  | received by this Authority on 27  | .01.2005  |  |  |
|  |   | pages*  | received by this Authority on   |   |  |  |
|  | $\boxtimes$   | the claims:   |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | nos. 2,4,6  |   | as originally filed/furnished                         |  |  |
|  |   | nos.*   |   | th any statement) under Article 19                    |  |  |
|  |   | nos.* 1,3   | received by this Authority on 27  | .01.2005  |  |  |
|  |   | nos.*   |   |   |  |  |
|  | $\boxtimes$   | the drawings:   | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·   |   |  |  |
|  |   | sheets fig. 1-5   |   | as originally filed/furnished                         |  |  |
|  |   | sheets*   | received by this Authority on   |   |  |  |
|  |   | sheets*   | received by this Authority on   |   |  |  |
|  |   | a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplem  | ental Box Relating to Sequence Listin   | g.  |  |  |
| 3.   | $\boxtimes$   | The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:  |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | the description, pages  |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | the claims, nos. 5  |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | the drawings, sheets/figs   |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | the sequence listing (specify):   |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):   | ·   |   |  |  |
| 4.   |   | This report has been established as if (some of) the amend they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as file. | ments annexed to this report and liste<br>led, as indicated in the Supplemental I | ed below had not been made, since Box (Rule 70.2(c)). |  |  |
|  |   | the description, pages  |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | the claims, nos.  |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | the drawings, sheets/figs   |   |   |  |  |
|  |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|  |   | any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):   | <del>-</del>  |   |  |  |
| *  | If ite  | em 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "sup  | erseded."   |   |  |  |



International application No.
PCT/JP2004/004774

| Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |   |  |   |  |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Statement   |   |  |   |  |
| Novelty (N)   | Claims  | 1-4, 6   | YES   |  |
|   | Claims  |  | _ NO  |  |
| Inventive step (IS)   | Claims  | 1-4, 6   | YES   |  |
|   | Claims  | ·  | _ NO  |  |
| Industrial applicability (IA)   | Claims  | 1-4, 6   | YES   |  |
|   | Claims  |  | _ NO  |  |
|   | Citations and explain Statement  Novelty (N)  Inventive step (IS) | Statement  Novelty (N)  Claims Claims Inventive step (IS)  Industrial applicability (IA)  Claims | Claims Industrial applicability (IA)  Citations and explanations supporting such statement  Statement  1-4, 6  Claims  1-4, 6  Claims  1-4, 6  Claims  1-4, 6 |  |

- 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)
  - Document 1: JP 2002-149150 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 24 May 2002, paragraphs [0036] to [0040] and [0045] to [0055], and fig. 2, 3 and 5
  - Document 2: JP 2002-366128 A (Denso Corp.), 20 December 2002, paragraph [0019]
  - Document 3: JP 11-352946 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 24 December 1999, paragraphs [0015] and [0016], and fig. 1 & US 6335764 B1, column 3, line 55 to column 4, line 26 and fig. 1

The invention that is set forth in claims 1 to 4 and 6, and the feature wherein "the abovementioned sets of image data that are input serially and the abovementioned sets of  $\alpha$  blending processed image data that have been stored in the data storage unit are subjected to a vertical filtering process" in particular, are not disclosed in any of the documents that are cited in the international search report, and would not have been obvious to a person skilled in the art.